



Spence Defeats Ugas and Calls out Crawford



Errol Spence defeated Yordenis Ugas in front of an Arlington, Texas home crowd in AT&T stadium brought to us by Showtime Boxing and Premier Boxing Champions. Spence won the fight through technical knockout in the 10th round after the referee Laurence Cole stopped the fight by ringside doctor's recommendation.

The fight was a unification fight, with Ugas defending his WBA Championship and Spence defending his WBC and IBF titles. Ugas came into the contest with a 27-4 record; in his last bout, he defeated the legendary Manny Pacquiao by unanimous decision last August. Spence's previous bout defeated Danny Garcia after a year of layoff from a severe car accident, leaving him with several face lacerations but no broken bones in October 2019.

The fight had a big fight feel in the football stadium, with the entrances supporting that emotion. Ugas entered the ring wearing a red and white robe while his cornermen waved the Cuba flag. Spence came out wearing a black robe with a pink stripe on them, a green fur hood and "The Truth," his nickname across the chest is highlighted pink. While Dallas native rapper Big Tuck led him to the ring by rapping his 2004 hit song Southside is da Realist.

As the bout began, both fighters were establishing their jabs early. Spence was more aggressive and Ugas landed effective counterpunches to the body. This was the tone for the first two rounds.

Then in the third, Spence set the tone in the pocket, repeatedly landing power punches while Ugas would land his uppercut followed by a couple of hooks late in the round. In the fourth, Spence got even more aggressive trying to land haymakers but Ugas avoided a lot of them but still was taking punishment from Spence.

Ugas landed a right hook mid-round in the sixth, knocking out Spence's mouthpiece. Spence makes the mistake of pausing to retrieve the mouthpiece without the referee stopping the action and Ugas lands another couple of hooks knocking Spence into the ropes.

This must have made Spence aware of the urgency of the fight because, in the seventh, he threw rapid hooks; even though Ugas landed a hook followed by an uppercut to get Spence off of him, still Spence dominated another round. In the eighth, Spence stayed aggressive, which led to Ugas right eye becoming noticeably swollen and referee Laurence Cole called time with 0:53 to allow the ringside doctor to check it out. The doctor okayed the eye and Ugas was able to continue after the round Ugas corner tried to forge themselves into resolving his eye issues.

In the ninth round, Spence started landing punches from everywhere. Ugas was taking a severe beating trying to protect himself with his high guard, but Spence continued to land power punch after another.

The 10th round showed Ugas hurt and Spence did not let up. He was still keeping the high guard to protect his eye, but Spence could keep landing. With 1:16 left in the round, the referee called for the doctor to check out his vision. This time he could allow Ugas to continue. The fight was stopped, ruled a TKO via doctor's stoppage unifying the three titles to the winner Errol Spence.

In the post-fight interview with Jim Gray, Spence talked about his trials and tribulations over the last couple of years. "I've been through a lot; why would I quit now," he said.

Gray asked him what was next and that's when he called for the fight every boxing fan wants to see, "I want what everybody else wants. I want to fight Terence Crawford."

Crawford currently has a 38-0 record with 29 knockouts and holds the WBO welterweight championship.

A fight between these two would be a huge fight for boxing fans and draw enormous buzz for the sport.

We saw two 14-0 undefeated fighters compete on the fight’s undercard, with Lithuanian fighter Eimantas Stanionis defeating Russian Radzhab Butaev by a split decision. We saw 21-0 Canadian Cody Crowley defeat 37-year star Jóseito Lopez by unanimous decision. A couple of knockouts from past boxing greats by young up-and-comers as 22-year-old Jose Valenzuela knocked out 33-year-old Francisco Vargas in the first round with a wide left hook to the cheek. That was followed by 26-year-old Mexican fighter Isaac Cruz knocking down 35-year-old Yuriorkis Gamboa repeatedly throughout the fight ending with a fifth-round KO from a left and right hook, knocking Gamboa into the ropes.

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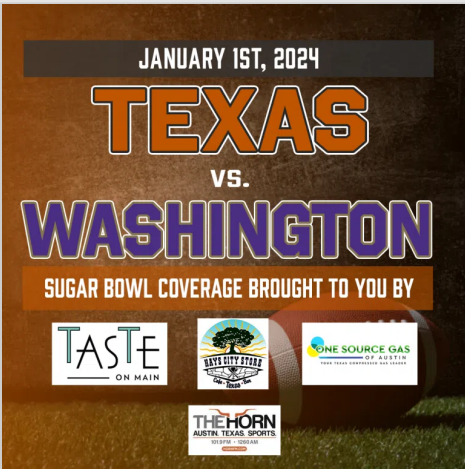
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